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NSA spying on anti-war activists?

By the Associated Press

Washington

The National Security Agency provided the CIA with "at least 1,100 and undoubtedly more" summaries of telephone and telegraph communication involving anti-war activists and other dissidents, informed sources have reported.

The communications — intercepted over "a two or three-year period" during the first Nixon administration — detailed the foreign travels and organizing efforts of various groups, sources told the Associated Press.

The summaries were transmitted via courier from NSA headquarters to Richard Ober, the official in charge of the CIA's Operation Chaos which monitored the activi-

ties of political dissidents, sources said.

A separate source said similar summaries went to other agencies, such as the FBI and the Defense Intelligence Agency, but was unable to say how many communications went to these recipients.

The same source confirmed that Dr. Benjamin Spock, actress Jane Fonda, Black Panther leader Eldridge Cleaver, and Chicago Seven defendants Abbie Hoffman and David Dellinger were targets of NSA intercepts.

Asked for his reaction, Dr. Spock — a third-party candidate for president in 1972 — said: "If our government would put its efforts and our tax money into creating a more just society rather than snooping on citizens who differ with them, America would be impregnable."

The NSA is a supersecret agency whose job is to intercept messages and break codes of foreign countries, and to protect the secret communications of the United States.

One source who saw the summaries which were pro-

vided the CIA said they originated from cable and telephone traffic between the United States and foreign nations, and between two points overseas.

None of the sources was able to give a reliable estimate of the number of persons whose communications were being intercepted.

Some sources said they assumed the list of intercept targets which the CIA provided the NSA was the same as a list of 41 names developed by Operation Chaos as targets of the CIA's mail-reading campaign.

Two other sources said they thought the lists were different and that the list provided the NSA was the larger of the two.

The Rockefeller Commission's report on the CIA states that "an international communications activity of another agency of the government provided Operation Chaos with a total of approximately 1,100 pages of material overall."

One source who saw the material said each page contained at least one and sometimes two or three intercepted communications.

Operation Chaos, said the Rockefeller Commission, "unlawfully exceeded the CIA's statutory authority" in becoming "a repository for large quantities of information of the domestic activities of American citizens."

"Chaos" was begun in 1967 and ended in 1974. Files were gathered on 7,200 citizens for "Chaos," which developed a computerized index of 300,000 persons and organizations, said the Rockefeller Commission.

Mr. Ober, now assigned to the National Security Council staff, "ran 'Chaos' from a vaulted basement area" and reported directly to then-CIA director Richard Helms, said the commission report.